General Assembly

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Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 66 (*w*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the First Committee (A/57/510)*]

57/69. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/38 S of 9 December 1997, 53/77 A of 4 December 1998 and 55/33 W of 20 November 2000 and its decisions 54/417 of 1 December 1999 and 56/412 of 29 November 2001,

Recalling also paragraphs 60, 61, 62 and 64 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly[1] and the provisions of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[2] and recalling further the relevant paragraphs of the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[3] and of the report of its Main Committee II[4] concerning the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia,

Convinced that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones contributes to the achievement of general and complete disarmament,

Emphasizing the importance of internationally recognized treaties on the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in different regions of the world and on the strengthening of the non-proliferation regime,

Welcoming the adoption by the Disarmament Commission at its 1999 substantive session of principles and guidelines for the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned,[5]

Considering that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region[6]

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[1] Resolution S-10/2.

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[3] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I.

[4] Ibid., vol. II (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Part III)), sect. 6, document NPT/CONF.2000/MC.II/1.

[5] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42), annex I.

[6] Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

will heighten the security of the States concerned and strengthen global and regional peace and security,

Recalling the Almaty Declaration on the establishment of a nuclear-free zone in Central Asia, adopted by the leaders of the Central Asian States on 28 February 1997,[7] the statement issued at Tashkent on 15 September 1997 by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia[8] and the Communiqué of the Consultative Meeting of Experts of the Central Asian Countries, the Nuclear-Weapon States and the United Nations, held at Bishkek on 9 and 10 July 1998,[9] with a view to elaborating acceptable ways and means of establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia,

Reaffirming the universally recognized role of the United Nations in the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the support of all States for the initiative to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;

2. *Takes note* of the elaboration by experts of all five Central Asian States at the meeting held at Samarkand, Uzbekistan, from 25 to 27 September 2002, of a draft treaty for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia and protocol thereto;

3. *Invites* all five Central Asian States to continue consulting with the five nuclear-weapon States on the draft treaty for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia and the protocol thereto, in conformity with the 1999 Disarmament Commission agreed guidelines for the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones;[5]

4. *Welcomes* the decision by all five Central Asian States to sign the Central Asian nuclear-weapon-free zone treaty as soon as possible;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to continue to provide assistance to the five Central Asian States in their further work for the early establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;

6. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question of the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia at its fifty-eighth session under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament".

57th plenary meeting
22 November 2002

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[7] A/52/112, annex.
[8] A/52/390, annex.
[9] A/53/183, annex.